**Chandigarh-Ludhiana and Kalka—Parwanoo Rail Lines**

1440. SHRIMATI CHANDRESH KUMARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether commencement of work on broad-gauge rail links between Chandigarh to Ludhiana and Kalka to Parwanoo has been ordered;

(b) if so, the details thereof with expenditure made so far on each project including present position of each;

(c) whether any target to complete the work on both the projects has been fixed;

(d) if so, the project-wise details thereof with estimated amount to be spent on each; and

(e) what would be the advantages to rail passengers, with operation of these rail links?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRIO. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The details are given as under:—

| SI. No. | Name of Project | Length of project | Anticipated cost | Expenditure incurred/likely to be incurred upto 31.3.2002 | Status |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Ludhiana | 112 Kms. | Rs. 248. crs. | Rs. 61.02 crs. | The earthwork and bridge works on Chandi garh Morinda section are in progress. |
| 2. | Kalka-Parwanoo | 5.35 Kms. | Rs. 36.99 crs. | Rs. 14 lakhs | The final location survey has been completed Land acquisition papers have been submitted to the State Govt. |

No target date for completion of these projects has been fixed.

(e) The Chandigarh-Ludhiana rail link will provide direct rail link from Chandigarh to Ludhiana and other important cities of Punjab like Jalandhar & Amritsar and as well as to Jammu. The Kalka-Parwanoo rail link would provide a broad gauge rail head in Himachal Pradesh.